



SPIRITUAL FRONTIERS FELLOWSHIP

Newsletter

Vol. 3

No. 1

ANOTHER NEW CHAPTER FORMED

The Executive Council of SFF is proud to announce the formation of another new chapter is the continued expansion work at Detroit, Michigan. After a visit by the Executive Director, Joseph B. Fitch, October 29, a meeting was held in the home of the Rev. Victor and Betty Maxam on Nov. 12th. Upon this occasion Mable Humphrey spoke concerning her experiences in England from where she had just returned. Likewise, Mrs. Storm Vanderzee of Grosse Ile told of her trip around the world and the conference in India regarding "The Temple of Understanding." On December 17 the next meeting was held at the Highland Park Congregational Church at which the Rev. Berton S. Levering, a member of the group will speak and the tape of the Joliet Conference was played of one of Canon John Pierce-Higgins' lectures.



The President has appointed and the Council approved as Detroit Area Chairman, Mrs. Victor J. Maxam. Others shown include the Vice-Chairman, the Rev. Clair Wolf, Wyandotte Methodist Church; Secretary, Rev. V. J. Maxam, Highland Park Congregational Church; Treasurer, Kenneth Lauterwasser of Saline, Mich; Mable Humphrey; Mrs. Storm Vanderzee; Mrs. Bert Colon; and Mrs. Dorothy Adams. Not pictured here but on the Detroit Steering Committee is the Rev. Berton S. Levering.

An innovation was introduced which no one explained except a report by Dorothy Adams that she and several friends of SFF had started an "SFF Smokers Anonymous" or "Smokers Phone Fellowship." If one of them wanted to smoke they would call each other. Says the report, "They burned up telephone lines instead of cigarettes."

No future programs or dates have been reported to us by the new Detroit chapter, but all SFF members within fifty miles any direction, including Canadians, will be informed by the chapter as matters progress. We wish them every success.

OTHER NEW CHAPTERS FORMING

The Executive Council has approved President Ross Sweeny's appointment of Mrs. Eleanor Dwyer of Glen Cove, Long Island, New York to act as Chairman of a new Area Chapter. Also, the Rev. Edward Puff, Pastor of the United Church of Christ, Dayton, Ohio to act as Chairman of the reorganized Dayton Chapter to succeed the Rev. Harold Tollefson of West Milton, Ohio, who has moved to Richmond, Indiana.

Prayer and Precognition

Often we have heard the question of whether or not intercessory prayer can offset a danger (such as a car accident) precognized by an individual. We answer yes, it may help. Just as a shout from a friend may keep us from some impending danger, every precognitive event, whether it comes by a dream, a vision, a hunch or an inner knowing, is given for our benefit if we recognize it and pay attention to it.

This raises the question of predestination, that old Calvinistic doctrine. One well-known psychic adds to the confusion by saying that even though the Kennedy assassinations were both precognized by her and others, the President's death could not have been prevented but the Senator's could have been. To us this seems a contradiction. God is neither whimsical nor inconsistent toward men.

SFF is not a credal organization; therefore, any statement here is merely a personal opinion. God gave us life, the laws to live by, and a free, moral ability to choose. A warning of any kind serves to put us on our toes. This does not imply that we should worry day in and day out about any impending crisis. It does suggest that as we begin each day a prayer for protection is in order, and if prayer is energy--thought in motion--there is no reason why it could not affect a future course of action set in motion by other minds. Some, of course, choose to ignore the warnings of their doctors, advisors, friends. They and others would not believe in prophetic signs of danger if given to them. Yet this topic is so important that in order to study precognitive crises three groups have been formed. One was established early in London. Another is a project of Harold Sherman's E.S.P. Research Associates Foundation in Little Rock, Ark. The third is the Central Premonitions Registry, New York City. The intent of such studies is to see if disasters can be picked up ahead of time by enough psychics, categorized, and verified. If so, public warnings could be given. Prayers could be prayed to help prevent the trouble.

The Old Testament prophets warned the Israelites of impending doom; they also prayed. Sometimes they succeeded, sometimes not. The fact that Jesus prayed unsuccessfully in Gethsemane to prevent the betrayal and its consequences should not obscure the fact that even He believed prayer could have helped prevent the crisis he felt was about to happen.

AREA CHAPTER NEWSFLORIDA, Northeast Area:

Cyril Tucker, Sub-Committee Chairman on Survival of the SFF Research Committee, spoke in December. Tentative dates ahead include January 14 for the Executive Director, Joseph Fitch; February 21 and 22 for Mrs. Jo Kimmel. The Rev. Robert Reitingger, Chairman.

FLORIDA, Tampa-St. Petersburg:

In December Mrs. Leila T. Ammerman spoke on "Memories of Former Lives Under Hypnosis." In January Mr. Francis Story, a Buddhist monk, will speak on "Reincarnation," the Executive Director, Joseph Fitch, on January 17, 18. The Rev. Alex Holmes will speak early in Feb.

FLORIDA, Southeast, Miami:

The annual Seminar will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 31, Feb. 1 and 2, and will include lectures by Arthur Ford, Alex Holmes, Joseph Fitch, and Mrs. Pat Hayes. Also, the Rev. Arthur Ford will lecture Wednesday, the 29th of January. Also included will be workshops on survival, healing, meditation, and the world of the subconscious. For information and reservations, contact Mr. Bud Hayes, 7150 S.W. 136th St., Miami, Fla. 33143. For those who desire to call, phone 305-238-5704.

FLORIDA, Daytona Beach, late news:

The Rev. James Crosson, retired Episcopal clergyman, has been appointed to act as Chairman by President Ross Sweeny to organize a new area chapter. A date for the visit and talks of Joseph Fitch will be Jan. 15 and 16. If you live in this general area you may write to the Rev. Crosson at P. O. Box 694, New Smyrna Beach, Fla. 32069 to be placed on the mailing list for all programs.

GEORGIA, Atlanta Chapter:

Mr. C.C. Caviness, R.I., Powder Springs, tells that on Nov. 8 a lecture by Hans Holzer was sponsored, his title being "Scientific Evidence of Ghosts." The January program will feature Joseph Fitch on the 11th and 12th. A new feature of the Atlanta chapter is an attractive mailing brochure, buff-colored, which is mailed to members and friends in that area who are on its mailing list.

GEORGIA, Augusta:

Mrs. Jane Hudson announces that Joseph Fitch has been invited to speak at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Mon., Jan. 13 at night. We do not have the exact time at this writing, but probably 7:30 P. M.

AREA CHAPTER NEWS (cont.)

IOWA, Des Moines:

A Public Forum program was held recently which featured the Rev. Ray Martin of the First Methodist Church, on "Prayer and Healing." Mr. Neil Hanson on "The Challenge to the Church of Parapsychology" and Gov. Harold Hughes on "Immortality as a Relevant Matter." Gov. Hughes, now Senator-Elect, also spoke at the Immanuel Methodist Church, December 29.

MARYLAND, Baltimore:

Dr. Marcus Bach lectured Nov. 17 in Towson Presbyterian Church attended by 280 members and guests in spite of foul weather. A period of fellowship followed the meeting. On Sunday, Jan. 12th, the chapter meeting will be held at Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church on Charles Street, Woodbrook, with Fred H. Ohrenschall speaking and promoting several new study and prayer groups. Fred has served on the Executive Council of SFF and has been closely associated with Olga Worrall in the work of the New Life Clinic for many years. On Feb. 2nd, 3rd, 4th, Mrs. Joan Kimmel, Secretary of SFF, will conduct a Workshop for leaders of prayer and study groups in the Baltimore area. On Sunday, the 2nd at 3:00 at the Towson Presbyterian Church she will talk and conduct a question and answer session. After a light supper, the first of several workshop or laboratory sessions will be held. On Monday and Tuesday, Mrs. Kimmel will meet with individuals or small groups during the day and conduct workshops in the evening. From her work in several other cities, it is known that Mrs. Kimmel will be most helpful to those organizing and conducting small prayer and study groups in the Baltimore area.

MASSACHUSETTS, Boston:

Mrs. Jo Kimmel spoke Nov. 21, 22, and the 23rd in a laboratory workshop for small prayer groups.

MASSACHUSETTS, Westover Air Force Base:

Joseph Fitch spoke twice Sun., Nov. 17 at Chapel services usually conducted by Lt. Col. Harold Jester, an SFF member.

NEW JERSEY AREA, South, Woodbury:

On November 30, Mr. Cy Tucker spoke to a delegation of members on the topic of "Research" at Woodbury, Christ Episcopal Church.

NEW YORK, New York City:

Joseph Fitch and Dr. Bernard Grad spoke on Sunday, Nov. 10 in the afternoon at Riverside Church. The chairman, James Kinnear, wrote by request an article entitled "Some Data Towards Forming an Intelligent World-View" for the magazine of the Philosophical Society of Brooklyn College, New York. On Dec. 18th he appeared for a two-hour session with the Student's Association at Hunter College on the subject, "The Esoteric Aspects of Christmas." He will address a group of students from Columbia University at the University Program of Broadway Presbyterian Church, Jan. 12th, on "Pike's Peak: Was it Authentic?" He has also prepared a mimeographed report entitled, "The Challenge of a Metropolis to the Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship."

NEW YORK, Schenectady:

The Executive Director, the Rev. Fitch, spoke to the chapter at Christ Episcopal Church on Tuesday, Nov. 12, to the combined meeting of Study Groups Nov. 13 at the Y.M.C.A. and attended a service of Divine Healing held by the Rector, Father Ernest Pugh, on Nov. 14. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Boniface lead this slowly growing chapter and do effective work there.

OHIO, Defiance:

The Rev. Alex Holmes will speak on Sunday night, January 26 at a place yet to be announced. Dr. Richard Batzler of Defiance College is the Chairman.

OHIO, Canton:

The Rev. Alex Holmes will speak locally on Friday night, Feb. 7. Perhaps the place can be announced in time for the Feb. issue of the Newsletter. If not, contact Mr. or Mrs. David Jones, 1225 28th St. N., 44714.

OREGON, Portland:

A monthly meeting was reported at the home of Miss Dora Broeje, Sat., Nov. 23rd.

PENNSYLVANIA AREA, Harrisburg-Middletown:

Mr. Kemper H. Hammel is the new Chairman. The Rev. Arthur Ford is to give a public lecture at 8 P. M., Tuesday, Jan. 7, in the Forum, Education Building, Harrisburg.

NOTE: Area Chapter program announcements are due the 10th of each month for programs to be held the following month. If we receive them we will print them. Hopefully, Uncle Sam will deliver them in time.

Lesson 1

Subject: Introduction to Bible Studies

--Prepared by the SFF Study Group Committee

I. Definitions:

- a) Paranormal, "Beyond the normal; extraordinary."
- b) Psychical, "Perception of persons, places, or events beyond the reach of the five senses."
- c) Mystical, "Immediate confrontation with 'Ultimate Reality' beyond sense perception leaving one with a sense of awe, wonder, the ineffable."
- d) Parapsychology, literally "Beyond psychology; the scientific study of extra sensory perception."
- e) Spiritual Healing, "The art of restoring a person (or other living entity to a condition of health by the use of power that is attributed to the Supreme Being."
- f) Discarnate Beings, "or Angels, are those beings who, as far as we know, have never lived on earth but are 'Heavenly spirits.'"
- g) Excarnate Beings, "Persons are those who have lived in this world, whose bodies have died, and who now live as spirits."

Note: This study will deal with the phenomena as recorded in the Bible and explore such subjects as telepathy, clairvoyance, materialization, glossallalia, clairsaudience, apparitions, angels, precognition, trance, direct voice, dreams and visions, psychometry, demonology, exorcism, healing by touch, mysticism, prayer, mediumship, levitation, reincarnation, karma, teleportation, telekinesis, etc.

II. Purpose of the course:

To study examples of the paranormal in the Old and New Testaments which range from the so-called lesser manifestations of God's power to those which had a profound effect upon the spiritual growth of those experiencing the phenomena. The purpose of this--in fact the primary purpose of SFF--is to reach beyond phenomena to the truth behind it and to an awareness of its relation to our own personal, spiritual growth.

In studying and developing each lesson, whether individually or in a study group, this question must continually be kept in mind, "How does this relate creatively to my own spiritual growth?"

Note: Study materials for registered study groups are in the process of preparation by the SFF Study Group Committee. These will include courses in prayer, healing and survival plus a choice of electives. Please do not write for them until they are announced as printed and ready for distribution. Meanwhile and after their publication, these regular monthly lessons may, as suggested above, be used by individuals or study groups.

(Continued on the other side)

III. Examples of lesser and exploitive use versus spiritual growth use of psychical and mystical powers (the use of the spiritual laws of the universe--God's laws--for evil or good).

Genesis 20:3-7; I Samuel 9; I Kings 17:17-23.
Mark 2:1-11; note especially verse 8. John 4:8-42.
Acts 3:1-10; 8:18-21; 9:1-22; 16:16; 19:13; 19:18.
I Corinthians 12:4-11; 27-31; Revelation 1:1,2.

Exercise

Look up the above examples listed above and judge into which category each falls.

- a) Add to the above examples others which are more meaningful to you than those listed.
- b) At the present moment how do you use the paranormal events in the Bible?
 1. Ignore them.
 2. Consider them purely psychic events to be read.
 3. Revelations to aid one's knowledge and growth today.
 4. Mystical experiences which cannot happen anymore.
 5. Classify them as myth.
 6. Some other.

Into which category does your interest fit?

- c) Write out in your own words what you believe this study may do for you. Be specific!
- d) Establish an expectancy for next month's topic: "Telepathy."

IV. Suggestions to groups anticipating the use of these lessons:

1. Meet more often than once a month and expand each lesson.
2. Keep groups under fifteen in number for maximum effectiveness. Twelve is an optimum number.
3. Make use of available supplementary materials.

V. Supplementary materials:

- a) From the SFF lending library see the latest Catalog (1967) section entitled, "Bible Study Books." Choose those which will fit your need.
- b) From the sales list you may order the following:
(Key to symbols: m=mimeographed; pb=paperback; pp=pamphlet)

Edited, Healing, A Bible-Related Study Guide; m, \$1.00
Edited, Paranormal in Holy Scripture; m, \$1.00
Elliott, Psychic Phenomena and the Bible; m, 35¢
Fitch, Affirmations, Aids in Learning to Pray; m, 75¢
MacDonald, The Biblical Prohibition in Deuteronomy; m. 35¢
Matson, A Month With the Master; pb, \$1.75
Pakenham-Walsh, The Communion of Saints; pp, 60¢

Note: A charge of 25¢ postage and handling must accompany each item ordered. Address orders to the Sales Book Section, Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship, 800 Custer Avenue, Suite #1, Evanston, Illinois 60202.

Arthur Ford's California Trip

Arthur Ford's first appearance was in Los Angeles on Nov. 15 at the famous Ambassador Hotel, speaking to well over 2,300 for an association of Spiritualist churches. In Santa Ana on Nov. 17 he spoke for a Spiritual Church with 550 seats more than sold out two times. Mon., Nov. 18, he spoke at the sponsorship of SFF in the United Church, Claremont. Tue. the 19th he addressed interested students at the USC campus, spoke to a book review club, appeared in a thirty-minute segment of "Tempt" and lectured to a packed house at Leisure World in Seal Beach. On Wed. the 20th he was the convocation speaker at the School of Theology at Claremont. Student discussions were held in the afternoon. Thur., the 21st he met with a Methodist Ministers Study Group for informal discussion at the Claremont seminary. That same afternoon, Arthur appeared live on the Bob Dale Show. Fri. the 22nd, Mr. Ford filled the large First Baptist Church of Santa Ana, including the choir pews. Sun. morning and evening he spoke at the Mission Hills Methodist Church, San Diego, and the Rev. Leslie Palmer reports there were "more people in this church than have ever been here in its more than fifty years of existence." Glendale's First Methodist Church was the scene of the Mon., Nov. 25 address with a very large sanctuary well filled. The final meeting in the L.A. area was at the First Methodist Church with about 850-900 in attendance.

Mr. Ford spent Thanksgiving with Bishop Pike in Santa Barbara, and went on to Los Gatos, south of San Francisco Bay for Sat. and Sun., Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, another date that saw the church filled to the choir pews, 700 in attendance. Mon. night on Dec. 2, he spoke for the Modesto chapter of SFF.

It would be difficult for a young man to keep up this pace and survive. The popularity and influence of this man never wanes. Many persons of repute heard him stress the psychic and scientific matters necessary in this field of survival, and without question there will be new study groups and chapters starting as a result of his visit. Thanks to the many who aided in making the trip successful: Jim Hambric, Prof. Bob Howell, Bernard Burry, Mrs. Dorothy Allen, the Rev. Leslie Palmer, and many others.

NEW STUDY SERIES BEGINS WITH THIS ISSUE

Beginning with this issue of the Newsletter a study lesson will be included each month. These lessons are planned so that they can be adapted either for individual or group use.

For individual use it is suggested the student use a notebook and write down his reactions to the material as suggested in the lesson.

Groups will proceed on the usual group dynamics basis.

Each lesson will be on two pages of the Newsletter in such manner that it can be cut off, punched, and preserved in a three-ring loose-leaf binder.

The current series is titled "The Paranormal in the Bible," and includes such topics as Visions and Dreams, Materialization, Telepathy, Clairvoyance, etc.

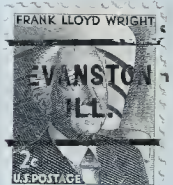
Each lesson will be prepared by a different member of SFF. If you would like to submit a suggestion or a lesson we would like to hear from you.--(Rev.) C. Leslie Palmer, CoChr.

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